

MIAMI-ĎADE COUNTY **COMMISSION ON** ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

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SLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURTS DADE COUNTY: FLA.

Case No: 07-01

PUBLIC REPORT AND ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT

In re: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Manuel Abella filed the above-captioned complaint against Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz ("Respondent") for alleged violation of Section 2-11.1(g) (misuse of official position). The complaint alleged the Respondent used his position to pressure a county department into hiring a particular consultant and to secure a project for his district.

The Respondent sought to have a "big-bore" rifle range in his district. The Miami-Dade County Department of Parks and Recreation hired a consultant to explore possible options regarding location, size and environmental issues regarding the development of the facility. The Respondent recommended the use of another consultant. Subsequently, after the consultant's report was issued, the Respondent

continued to press for the project despite environmental and cost concerns.

On March 22, 2007, the Ethics Commission found the complaint legally sufficient. Subsequently, the Advocate recommended a finding of no probable cause. Thereafter, after reviewing the complaint and the Advocate's no probable cause recommendation and being otherwise advised in the premises, the Ethics Commission ordered the complaint dismissed.

Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the Complaint is DISMISSED with a finding of no probable cause.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust in public session on March 22, 2007.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

Kerry Rosenthal Chairperson

cc: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz Manuel Abella